

MOJAVE DESERT RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2008 WMA Base Funding Work Plan

Member of: MOJAVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009

Contract Lead Group (County, RCD or Other and contact information:

Group: Mojave Desert RCD, Contact: Jackie Lindgren, Title: District Coordinator, Phone: 760-843-6882, ext. 101, Email: Jackie.lindgren@ca.nacdn.net, Mailing Address: 14330 Park Ave., #200, Victorville, CA 92392

Project Manager (contact for reporting and invoicing) and contact information:

Name: Lindgren, Jackie – same information as above.

WMA Group Affiliation: Mojave Weed Management Area

Please Confirm, All projects described in this work plan will be in one contract with (if more than one contract is desired, please describe here): Confirmed, 1 contract with Mojave Desert Resource Conservation District.

Proposed Project:

Project Title: Salt Cedar Control in the Upper Reaches of the Mojave River
Helendale

Project Goal:

The Mojave Weed Management Area will focus this year on treating salt cedar in the Upper reaches of the Mojave River. To accomplish this task, the Mojave WMA, via the MDRCD will be hiring one seasonal employee and utilizing one current part-time employee for this project as well as volunteer labor. The crew will receive training regarding the safe and proper use of herbicides and GPS weed mapping procedures. The goal of this project is to control the spread of these invasive, noxious weeds throughout the Mojave River in order to conserve water by means of reducing evapotranspiration of ground and surface water, increase the quality of water by reducing the amount of salt deposition, reduce the potential of wildfire, and to keep channels open to reduce damming of debris and severity of flooding. All of which will enhance this vital and rare riparian habitat for migratory birds and endangered species, including (and its associated wildlife) species such as SW Willow Flycatcher (endangered), Western Pond Turtle (species of concern), Mojave Tui Chub (endangered), the Mojave River Vole (species of concern), Least Bell's Vireo (endangered), Arroyo Toad (endangered), and the Mojave fringe-toed lizard (species of special concern) to name a few.

Project Description:

The Mojave Desert Resource Conservation District (RCD), which is the lead agency for the Mojave Weed Management Area, entered into an agreement with Mojave Water Agency (MWA) for removal of salt cedar, arundo and Russian-Olive in the Mojave River. The RCD is acting as “contractor,” operating under the funding, direction of and/or in consultation with MWA (see attached work plan), Department of Fish and Game, affected jurisdictions, and private parties. The Mojave WMA will work with the RCD in retreating with herbicide (Garlon 4 and Habitat) the area in the Mojave River from Las Flores Ranch to Bear Valley Rd (as funding allows) for salt cedar, an area covering 3,686 acres. The few occurrences of arundo in this area will also be treated. The first phase of eradication was completed in the spring of 2008 by RCD staff, volunteers and Cal Fire Pilot Rock Conservation Crews. Funding from this grant will allow 2nd year retreatment in the fall of 2009 (see attached map for current weed locations). This retreatment is a necessary follow-up to the initial cutting and herbicide application completed in 2008. All areas treated will be displayed on a map that will be submitted to all WMA partners and CDFA at the completion of the project.

Monitoring/Reporting:

The MWMA will follow CDFA’s protocol relative to these species when feasible. Based on the results of the treatment, follow up sprays and pulling of new growth may be required. Treated sites will be monitored on an annual or bi-annual basis for at least three years. Before, during and after photos of designated treated areas will be taken using a digital camera. A GIS map will be provided with an overlay showing the weeds prior to initial removal in 2008 and the success after treatment in fall of 2009.